

NOTES, INFORMATION & NEWS

Mexichromis tura: Range Extension of a
Rarely Observed Nudibranch
by
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Only nine specimens of the Chromodorididae species *Mexichromis tura* (Marcus & Marcus, 1967) have been recorded. The holotype specimen was collected at Deale Beach, Ft. Kobbe Beach, Panama (8°48'N, 79°55'W). BERTSCH *et al.* (1973) reported four specimens from Sa-yulita, Nayarit, Mexico (21°15'N, 105°15'W). BERTSCH (1978) cited three specimens from La Cruz, Nayarit (21°30'N, 105°16'W) and one specimen from La Paz, Baja California Sur (24°11'N, 110°23'W).

Because of the apparent rarity of this species in collections, our greater than 400 km northward range extension is noteworthy. On 24 June 1987, four specimens (one measuring 12 mm long) of *Mexichromis tura* were observed by A. Kerstitch at Bahía San Carlos, Sonora, Mexico (27°55'N, 111°04'W), in 20 m depth. These specimens represent the first collection of this species in the eastern



Figure 1

Mexichromis tura collected at San Carlos; photo by Alex Kerstitch.

and central Gulf of California and from the shores of Sonora.

The mantle margin of the animal illustrated (Figure 1) was rimmed with three encircling bands: an outermost yellow, a middle black, and an innermost powder blue. The black dorsum had numerous yellow spots; the periphery of the dorsum had larger, whitish streaks and splashes. The gills were white, with black tips. The rhinophores were completely black.

Literature Cited

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New Record of the Coral Clam

Coralliophaga coralliophaga (Gmelin, 1791)
(Bivalvia: Trapezidae) in the
Mediterranean Sea

by

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The family Trapezidae Lamy, 1920, contains three living genera, species of which live on coral bottoms: *Trapezium* Mühlfeld, 1811, distributed along Madagascar, the Indo-Pacific and Japan; *Coralliophaga* Blainville, 1824, which is present in the Mediterranean, Atlantic and Indo-Pacific; and *Isorropodon* Sturany, 1854, from the deep sea in the eastern Mediterranean (FRANC, 1960).

Up to now, only two species of this family have been recorded in the Mediterranean (PIANI, 1980): *Coralliophaga lithophagella* (Lamarck, 1819), a species with a wide geographical distribution—Atlantic (Britain to Senegal and the Azores) and Mediterranean (NORDSIECK, 1969)—and *Isorropodon perplexum* (Lamarck, 1819), the only species